FICCI Suggestion for Promotion of Pollution Treatment Facility

332. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has urged Government to promote pollution treatment facility as an industry to reduce the capital cost and ensure proper pollution disposals;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government propose to set up a green buffer zone around the hazardous industries to bring down the toxicity of the effluents; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has suggested to Government that there is need to provide financial and physical incentives to give an impetus to pollution control and prevention programmes of industries. Financial incentives are provided for installing polution control devices. Special efforts have been made in providing funds to industries to augment their pollution control system in order to conform to the prescribed standards.

(c) and (d) In according environmental clearance to projects it is stipulated that a greenbelt should be created around the plants in question.

Killing of Tigers by Poachers

333. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what according to the estimates, if any, is the number of tigers killed by the poachers in various parts of the country during 1990 as against the tigers killed in 1989;

(b) what percentage the population of tigers has been reduced at the end of 1990 and the areas where tiger population has been reduced;

(c) whether any critical review of the Project Tiger has been made by Government besides the measures taken so far to protect the tiger population in the country; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The number of tigers as reported to have been killed by the poachers during the financial year 1988-89 and 1989-90 are as follows:

State	Number of tigers poached during	
	1988-89	1989-90
(i) Orissa	2	1
(ii) Rajasthan	1	..
(iii) Karnataka	1	..
(iv) Maharashtra	6	1
(v) Andhra Pradesh	2	..
(vi) Uttar Pradesh	2	4
(vii) Assam	3	2
Total :	17	8

(b) Tiger census carried out in 1989 shows an overall increase between 1984 and 1989 from 4005 to 4334.

Tiger population has shown a decline in Kerala, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram.

(c) and (d) Steps taken to protect the tiger population in the country are given the statement attached. The Steering Committee of the Project Tiger had reviewed the functioning of "Project Tiger" in 1987 and made a number of recommendations.

The main recommendations and action taken on them are as follows:—

(i) Organisational aspects: Setting up of Field Veterinary Unit, special pay to staff, weapon training to field staff and running of periodical courses for training of Field Directors:

Government of India has asked the State Governments to take action on these recommendations. 100 per cent central assistance is provided under the "Project Tiger" to carry out these programmes. Training courses for field Directors and Research Officers are being organised from time to time through the Wild Life Institute of India, Dehradun. A study tour of Field Directors to Wild Life Reserves in Kenya was also organised.

(ii) Central Assistance to Tiger Project Areas should be increased:

Financial support to the State Governments for Tiger Project Areas has been increased. 100 per cent central assistance is provided for non-recurring expenditure and recurring items on creation of new posts for purposes of Research, Veterinary support including the Special Pay component. For other recuring items 50 per cent central assistance is provided.

(iii) Funding of "Community Development Projects" in the surrounding areas should be integrated with other rural development programmes like RLEGP and NREP etc.:

A scheme for "Eco-development around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries" including Tiger Reserves has been initiated and work in Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve has already started.

(iv) A minimum amount of Rs. 10,000/- be provided to each Field Director as discretionary fund for expenditure on intelligence work:

Reimbursement of amount spent by Field Directors of Project Tiger Areas in getting intelligence about poaching cases in made by Government of India.

(v) Scheme of pasture development, plant and rotational grazing should be prepared for buffer zones and the area should be managed by Field Directors. Alternative sources of fuel wood and energy should be popularised in the towns adjoining to Project Tiger Areas:

State Governments have been asked to take necessary action in this regard. A new scheme for providing financial assistance for the purpose has been created.

(vi) No industry should be allowed to be established within 20 kms. from the Reserve boundary:

The suggestion has been incorporated in the guidelines for giving clearance to the industries from environmental angle. No industry is allowed to set up within 25 kms. of boundaries of national park or a sanctuary.

(vii) General Awareness and Acceptability:

(a) The commercial feelings in buffer areas should be stopped and the needs of villagers should be met out of the yield of forest produces from buffer areas.

(b) Relocation of villagers from the core area should be done.

(c) Large scale extension work in the adjoining villages and towns should be undertaken.

(d) Nature Interpretation Centre should be established in each Tiger Reserve.

(e) Research and Monitoring should be strengthened:

The State Govrenments have been asked to take action in the matter. 100 per cent funding is provided for carrying Research and Monitoring programme.

(viii) Strengthening of Anti-poaching infrastructure and the Communications set up:

100 per cent central assistance is provided for purchase of weapons, wire-less sets and setting up of telephone network etc.

Statement

Measures taken by government to protect tiger population in the country.

(1) The Tiger is included in Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, and hunting of and trade in tiger and its products is banned.

(2) The Tiger is included in Appendix I of the 'Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora', of which India is a member. Therefore there is total ban on international trade in tiger and its products.

(3) A network of 73 National Parks and 413 Sanctuaries has been established to protect wild animals and their habitats. These include 18 Tiger Reserve under Project Tiger.

(4) All human activities, other than those which are necessary for improvement of wildlife, are prohibited in the core areas of Tiger Reserves. The buffer areas are managed on scientific lines to improve their ecological productivity. This arrangement helps in minimising mantiger conflicts.

(5) A system of payment of compensation for the human deaths and livestock killing by tigers and panthers is being implemented.

(6) Government of India provides financial assistance to the State Governments for the management of National Parks and Sanctuaries, including Tiger Reserves.

(7) Financial assistance is also provided for control of poaching in areas outside National Parks and Sanctuaries.

(8) A system of cash rewards to persons providing intelligence regarding poachers and illegal traders has also been introduced.

(9) A scheme for ecodevelopment of villages around National Parks and Sanctuaries including Tiger Reserves with the objective of socio-economic development of these villages compatible with the conservation of these protected areas is being implemented.

Setting up of Council for Medical and Laboratory Technologists

334. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fourteen member expert Committee had recommended that a Council for Medical Laboratory Technologists be set up, for proper recognition and working of the technologists concerned;

(b) if so, what are its major recommendations and by when are these likely to be implemented; and

(c) what are the reasons for long delay in setting up of the said council?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c) No fourteen member expert committee has recommended that a Council for Technologists be set up. However, the expert Committee on Health Manpower Planning, Production and Management, consisting of eight members, under the Chairmanship of Prof. J. S. Bajaj, has recommended the establishment of Councils for other categories of health professionals in the context of its recommendation for the establishment of an Education Commission for Health Sciences: this Committee has recommended the establishment of Councils for other categories of health professionals in case they are considered essential as a support mechanism for the Education Commission. However, the Com-